

SECTION 1012
NATIVE GRASS SEEDING

1012.1 GENERAL:

Work under this section consists of preparing all area indicated on the plans for native grass seeding, furnishing and installing all seed, fertilizer and soil amendments as specified herein and on the plans, or as authorized by the ENGINEER.

1012.2 REFERENCES:

1012.2.1 This Publication:

Section 1011 Turf Grass Seeding

1012.3 WORK AREA/TIMING:

1012.3.1 Areas that are disturbed by the CONTRACTOR that are outside the construction limits shown on the plans or authorized by the ENGINEER shall be seeded with native grasses as specified herein at no cost to the OWNER.

1012.3.2 The seeding of disturbed areas shall commence upon completion of the other work in the area.

1012.4 MATERIALS:

1012.4.1 Native Seed: The native seed species and rate of application shall be as shown below and shall be used based on the type of soil or as specified on the plans or in the Supplemental Technical Specification.

1012.4.1.1 Sandy Soils: (mainly west side areas). Seed rate is given in pounds of pure live seed (P.L.S.) per acre.

<u>Variety/ Common Name</u>	<u>Genus/ Species</u>	<u>P.L.S./Acre</u>
"Paloma" Indian rice grass	Oryzopsis hymenoides	5.0
"Viva" Galleta grass	Hilaria jamesii	1.0
"Niner" Side oats grama	Bouteloua curtipendula	3.0
"Hatchita" Blue grama	Bouteloua gracilis	1.0
Sand dropseed (NM Region)	Sporobolus cryptandrus	1.0
Fourwing saltbush (NM Region)	Atriplex canescens (de-winged)	1.0
Total rate		12.0 lbs/acre

1012.4.1.2 Clay, Clay Loam, and Sandy gravelly clay loam soils: (mainly valley and east side areas). Seed rate is given in pounds of pure live seed (P.L.S.) per acre.

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Genus-species</u>	<u>PLS/acre</u>
"Paloma" Indian rice grass	Oryzopsis hymenoides	2.0
"Viva" Galleta grass	Hilaria jamesii	2.0
"Niner" Sideoats grama	Bouteloua curti pendula	2.0
"Hatchita" Blue grama	Bouteloua gracilis	3.0
Sand dropseed (NM Region)	Sporobolus cryptandrus	1.0
Four-wing saltbush (NM Region)	Atriplex canescens (de-winged)	1.0

Total rate 11.0 lbs/ac

NOTE: If the area to be seeded is along a recreational trail of any type the seed mixes for either type of soil listed above shall exclude the one (1) pound per acre of Four-wing saltbush. The seeding rate shall be lowered by one (1) pound per acre.

1012.4.1.3 Seeds may be pre-mixed by a seed dealer. Each bag of seed shall be sealed and labeled by the seed dealer in accordance with Federal Seed Laws and New Mexico Department of Agriculture Labeling Laws. This includes: variety, kind of seed, lot number, purity, germination, percent crop, percent inert, percent weed (including noxious weeds), origin, test data and net weight. Federal Seed Laws require that analysis shall be no older than 5 months for seed shipped interstate and no older than 9 months for seed shipped intra-state. The ENGINEER shall receive all labels from all bags of seed used for verification.

1012.4.2 Fertilizer and Soil Amendments: Unless otherwise specified on the plans or in the Supplemental Technical Specification, no fertilizer or other soil amendments are required on areas specified to receive native seeding. If fertilizer and/or other soil amendments are required they shall be in accordance with Section 1011 of these specifications.

1012.4.3 MULCH:

1012.4.3.1 Hay Mulch: Perennial native or introduced grasses of fine-stemmed varieties shall be used unless otherwise specified on the plans. At least 65 percent of the herbage by weight of each bale of hay shall be 10 inches in length or longer. Hay with noxious seed or plants will not be acceptable. Rotted, brittle, or moldy hay will not be acceptable. Marsh grass or prairie hay composed of native grass of species to be seeded will be acceptable. Tall wheat grass, intermediate wheat grass, switch grass, or orchard hay will be acceptable if cut prior to seed formation. Marsh grass hay shall be composed of mid and tall native, usually tough and wiry grass and grass-like plants found in the lowland areas within the Rocky Mountain region. Hay shall be properly cured prior to use. Hay which is brittle, short fibered or improperly cured is not acceptable.

1012.5.2 Straw Mulch: Small grain such as wheat, barley, rye, or oats will not be allowed except by prior approval of the ENGINEER and with the concurrence of the Air Division, Environmental Health Department. Alfalfa or the stalks of corn, maize or sorghum is not acceptable. Material which is brittle, shorter than 10 inches or which breaks or fragments during the crimping operation will not be acceptable.

1012.4.3.3 Gravel Mulch: Gravel mulch shall be crushed or screened gravel 3/4" to 1" maximum size with a minimum of one angular face unless otherwise specified.

1012.4.3.4 Erosion Control Mats, Fabric or Blankets: The type of erosion control mats, fabric or blankets used shall be as specified or allowed on the plans or in the Supplemental Technical Specifications.

1012.5 SEED BED PREPARATION:

1012.5.1 General:

1012.5.1.1 Prior to the starting of any seed bed preparation the final grades of all earth work shall be inspected and approved by the ENGINEER.

1012.5.1.2 No preparation shall be performed when the surface is wet or muddy or when the soil moisture content is such that the soil is not fully loosened by the disking operation.

1012.5.1.3 The extent of seed bed preparation shall not exceed the area on which seeding, mulching and crimping operations can be completed prior to crusting or wind or water erosion of the prepared surface - if erosion, crusting or re-compaction occurs, the affected area shall be re-worked beginning with seed bed preparation. Depth of preparation must be approved by the ENGINEER prior to the seeding and mulching operations.

1012.5.2 Mechanical Preparation: The seed bed shall be loosened to a minimum depth of 6" (six inches) by means of disc or harrow. Area of heavy or compacted soil may require additional preparation such as chiseling or ripping if disking alone does not result in preparation to the full minimum depth of 6". The soil shall be worked to a smooth surface free of clods, stones 4" and larger or any other debris or foreign material that could interfere with seeding or crimping equipment operations.

1012.5.3 Hand Preparation: Areas which cannot be prepared with mechanized equipment because of small size irregular shape or slope angle may be prepared to a minimum depth of 2" using hand tools or a rototiller. Any such areas will be specified on the plans.

1012.6 SEEDING:

1012.6.1 General:

1012.6.1.1 Seeding shall not start until the seed bed preparation has been inspected and approved by the ENGINEER.

1012.6.1.2 No more area may be seeded than can be covered with mulch and crimped, or covered with gravel mulch or erosion control mats by the end of the work day. No seeding operations may be conducted when steady wind speed exceeds 10 miles per hour. If winds exceed 10 mph while seeding is underway, seeding operations will be halted and any areas seeded to that point completed.

1012.6.2 Seed Application:

1012.6.2.1 Drill Seeding: Drill seeding is required unless otherwise specified on the plans or in the Supplemental Technical Specifications. Seed shall be applied with a "rangeland" type seed drill equipped with packer wheels. Seed shall be drilled to a maximum depth of 1/2" unless otherwise specified. Direction of seeding shall be across slopes and on the contour whenever possible.

1012.6.2.2 Broadcast Seeding: Seed may be applied using the broadcast method when size, irregular shape or slope angle exceeding 3:1 prevents the use of a seed drill. Seed may be broadcast by hand or by means of a mechanical seeder provided that the seed is evenly distributed over the seeding area. Areas of broadcast seeding will be hand raked to cover seed. Areas which are broadcast seeded shall be seeded at rate which is double that used for drill seeding.

1012.6.2.3 Seeding With Gravel Mulch: Areas to receive gravel mulch will be seeded at the broadcast seed rate with 1/2 the seed applied prior to application of gravel and 1/2 the seed applied on the surface of the gravel. Water shall be applied in quantity sufficient to wash seed from the surface and into the gravel.

1012.6.2.4 Hydro Seeding: Hydro seeding will not be allowed on areas of non-irrigated native grass seeding unless specified on the plans or in the Supplemental Technical Specifications or authorized by the ENGINEER.

1012.7 MULCHING:

1012.7.1 General:

1012.7.1.1 All seeded areas shall be mulched unless otherwise specified on the plans or in the Supplemental Technical Specifications.

1012.7.1.2 On seeded areas that are level or have slopes 3:1 or less, any of the four (4) types of mulching or erosion control specified herein may be used. On seeded areas that have slopes steeper than 3:1 only gravel mulch or erosion control materials may be used as specified on the plans and in the Supplemental Technical Specifications.

1012.7.2 Hay Mulch: Hay mulch shall be applied at a minimum rate of 1.5 tons per acre of air dry hay.

1012.7.3 Straw Mulch: Straw mulch shall be applied at a minimum rate of 2.5 tons per acre of air dry straw.

1012.7.4 Crimping: Hay and/or Straw mulch shall be crimped into the soil. The mulch shall be spread uniformly over the area either by hand or with a mechanical mulch spreader. When spread by hand, the bales of mulch shall be torn apart and fluffed before spreading. Mulching will not be permitted when wind velocity exceeds 15 miles per hour. The mulch shall be wetted down and allowed to soften for 15 to 20 minutes prior to crimping. A heavy disc such as a mulch-tiller, with flat serrated discs at least 1/4 inch in thickness, having dull edges and the disc spaced 6 inches to 8 inches apart shall be used to crimp (or anchor) the mulch into the soil to a minimum depth of 2 inches or as specified on the plans or the Supplemental Technical Specifications. The discs shall be of sufficient diameter to prevent the frame of the equipment from dragging the mulch.

The crimping operations shall be across the slope where practical but not be parallel to prevailing Westerly winds (270 degrees magnetic). Crimping shall be in a general north-south direction or by tight interlocking "S" curves to avoid straight east-west crimp lines.

If small grain straw mulch is used it shall be crimped in two (2) directions in a cross-hatch pattern.

1012.7.5 Gravel Mulch: Gravel mulch shall be placed by hand or by mechanized equipment that provides full coverage at a uniform thickness of 2 inches in depth.

1012.7.6 Erosion Control Mats, Fabric or Blankets: the type of erosion control mats, fabric or blankets used shall be as specified on the plans or the Supplemental Technical Specifications or as approved by the ENGINEER. The anchoring of the erosion control items shall be as per the manufacturer's recommendations.

1012.8 PROTECTION OF NATIVE GRASS SEEDED AREA:

1012.8.1 GENERAL: The CONTRACTOR shall be responsible for protecting and caring for seeded areas until final acceptance of the work and shall repair at his expense any damage to seeded areas caused by pedestrian or vehicular traffic or vandalism.

1012.9 INSPECTION FOR NATIVE GRASS AREA:

1012.9.1 The following inspection shall be the minimum required inspections to native grass during the course of construction. Additional inspections shall be made at any time at the discretion of the ENGINEER.

1012.9.2 It shall be the responsibility of the CONTRACTOR to notify the ENGINEER, in writing, 48 hours in advance of each required inspection.

1012.9.3 The sequence of required inspections shall not be changed from the sequence listed below. The CONTRACTOR shall not proceed with work of the next sequence without written approval of the work of the previous sequence. Payment will not be approved for items which have not been inspected and approved in writing.

1012.9.3.1 Each phase of soil preparation shall be inspected in process.

1012.9.3.2 Finish grade shall be inspected.

1012.9.3.3 Seed shall be inspected prior to seeding.

1012.9.3.4 Seeded area shall be inspected after completion.

1012.9.3.5 Final inspection of the project and acceptance.

1012.10 MEASUREMENT AND PAYMENT

1012.10.1 MEASUREMENT: The measurement of native grass seeding shall be by the acre.

1012.10.2 Payment: Payment shall be made at the contract unit price per acre of native grass seeding complete in place, which shall include the seed, fertilizer, (if required) area preparation, seeding, soil amendments, (if required) and mulching.